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## **GLORIA MOLINA ANNOUNCES ‘OBAMACARE’ IMPLEMENTATION STATUS REPORTS FOR L.A. COUNTY**

### **Health Department Must ‘Deliver on Promise of Universal Health Care’**

LOS ANGELES (November 13, 2012)—Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina announced today that the Board of Supervisors will receive status reports on the implementation on the Affordable Care Act – commonly known as “Obamacare” – as it pertains to the county’s health care delivery system. Dr. Mitch Katz, who serves as Director of the Department of Health Services, will present his first report in two weeks and, thereafter, at the first Board of Supervisors meeting of each month.

“The Affordable Care Act’s primary mandates will take effect in just over one year,” Molina said. “Under that brief timeframe, our health department must urgently reinvent itself. We must transform from a safety net provider with unlimited demand for services to a more efficient provider vying for newly insured patients in a highly competitive marketplace. To deliver on the promise of universal health care, we must prove that Los Angeles County’s health department can compete with private sector health care providers. We must transition to a system where we attract and retain hundreds of thousands of new patients – and we must begin the transition today.”

In her motion – co-authored by Sup. Mark Ridley-Thomas – Molina noted that transforming the health department’s mission would require expanding and strengthening the county’s network of community health providers; upgrading the health department’s computer records system; educating the general public on the high quality of services offered at the county’s medical facilities; and ensuring that “our customer service must be second to none” since failure would require “an infusion of general fund dollars to avert a system collapse,” Molina said.

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